(b) whether the signs of stress are leading to tendencies of suicide and murder etc.;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no system for redressal of their grievances; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) There are some signs of tension and fatigue amongst CRPF personnel sometimes because of nature of their duties and security situation.

(b) There is no scientific evidence to show that signs of stress are leading to tendencies of suicide and murder etc. Suicide and fratricide occur due to several reasons, mostly personal and domestic.

(c) There is a well laid out centralized public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) in CRPF to redress the grievances of personnel. In addition, a Grievance redress Cell has been formed and functioning at Sector/Range/GC and Unit level since-2001. Toll free helpline facility is also available for counseling.

(d) A number of schemes and stress busters like Yoga Courses, Course on Art of living etc. are being arranged to reduce the stress level of Force personnel. Adequate emphasis is being laid on sports activities. Several welfare schemes have been initiated for the welfare of personnel. These contribute a lot for stress relief. The grievances reported at each level are being redressed through counseling and as per Government of India/Departmental instructions within a period of 45 days.

Naxalite using children for armed struggle

2217. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Maoists in West Bengal taking a cue from Taliban and Khmer Rouge, had started using children in armed struggle against the State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the numbers of children wing of the Maoists gunned down a few Marxist cadre at various places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) There is no input suggesting that Maoists are taking a cue from Taliban and Khmer Rouge for using children in armed struggle in West Bengal. However, the CPI (Maoist) in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa recruit young children from time to time as 'Bal Dasta' or 'Bal Sangham'.

(b) and (c) There are no reports to indicate that the children wing of CPI (Maoist) have gunned down Marxist cadres at various places in West Bengal.